

SEE THE
FACE
OF GOD
AND
ANSWER
HIS CALL

THE CHURCH OF SAINT BONIFACE

817 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
LUNENBURG, MA 01462



AUGUST 3, 2025



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God." - Lk 12:20-21

THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

AUGUST 3, 2025 / EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23/ Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11/ Luke 12:13-21

Again and again, Jesus warns us about inheritances. Remember the prodigal son? His troubles begin when he takes his share of the inheritance and squanders it on dissolute living. In another parable, he tells of wicked tenants who kill the vineyard owner's heir so that they will get his inheritance. Today it's a person in the crowd who's upset because his brother received an inheritance and not him. Jesus could have said that fairness demands the inheritance be split in half. Or he could have asked if there may be a good reason he wasn't given a share of it. Instead, he cautions us all about greed. Possessions, inherited or not, are not the goal of life. As we have seen, inheritances can lead to tragedy and often do. As Saint Paul wrote later, "the love of money is the root of all evils" (1 Timothy 6:10).

Question of the Week: What or whom have I thought of when I have received an unexpected bounty? How can I be a more generous person?

Gospel Meditation

Recent studies suggest that millennials will be the first generation in America to be worse off than their parents in terms of financial earnings and job status. Many lament this. I propose that this week's Gospel provides a hopeful way to see the trend as good news.

The Lord Jesus says, "Take care to guard against greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist in possessions" (Luke 12:15). Greed damages us with the deception that we are what we possess. But to Jesus, this is simply not true. What makes us happy is who we are, who we become.

Does not the expectation that every generation should do better than their parents subtly mask the poison of greed? A similar attitude is mirrored in the man who demands that Jesus justly arrange his share of the family inheritance. Despite the injustice, Jesus will not play that game. In fact, he seems to prefer that the man have less than his parents. What good would having more be to this man if he becomes enslaved and miserable by greed? What good would it be for us to have more if it means we become much less?

In allowing the man to have less, Jesus opens a space for him to become more: a man free to love. In that much more meaningful sense, perhaps he was better off than his parents. Maybe the millennials will be, too.

— Father John Muir
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ST. DOMINIC

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Prayer for Open Hands

Lord, I do not know what any day holds,
I cannot take for granted any of the gifts You have given.
Help me to use them, then, as You would have me.
Help me to live according to Your invitations.
Amen.

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MASS INTENTIONS

AUG 2	4:00 PM	MARIE NADER
AUG 9	4:00 PM	ROSE SANTORO
AUG 16	4:00 PM	WAYNE DUFOUR
AUG 23	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE
SEP 13	4:00 PM	FRANK DIGIACOMO
SEP 20	4:00 PM	WAYNE DUFOUR
SEP 27	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE
OCT 4	4:00 PM	JOSEPH PICUCCI JR.
OCT 12	10:30 AM	MICHAEL BRISSON
OCT 18	4:00 PM	WAYNE DUFOUR
OCT 25	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE

Prayer of the Rosary

Every Saturday at 3:30 pm in the church, led by members of the Saint Boniface Knights of Columbus.

Food Donations for the months of July and August will go to Lunenburg Food Pantry. Donations can be placed in the rear of the church. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Instrument Donations

If you have any musical instruments you could donate, the church would be very grateful. Please leave them in the back of the church. We are hoping to start a children's music group.

CCD

Registration for Religious education is now open. If you are new to our parish or if you have a child entering 1st grade, please take a moment to fill out the form at this link

<https://stboniface-lunenburg.org/religious-education-1>.

Our program runs on Sundays from 9-10 AM every other weekend beginning in September. The cost of the program is \$50 per child, with a family max of \$75. We look forward to being a part of your faith journey.

Wanted Vendors

Sunday August 3rd, 11 AM–5 PM rain or shine. At the Macaroni Club 36 Birch St Passway Fitchburg. Whether you're a maker, a seller, or a small business, join us for our first ever Macaroni Marketplace. We're looking for a variety of vendors—crafts, vintage, handmade goods, specialty items, and more. There will be food served. Limited space available. Apply soon. Contact the club for the application. Message us on Facebook. Call or text Chrissy Russo at 978-227-6648. All event details will be on the application. Let's make it a great one! See you there!

STEWARDSHIP

July 20

Sunday	2,134.00
Fuel/Maintenance	15.00
Total	\$2,149.00



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SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH

817 Massachusetts Avenue, Lunenburg, MA 01462
Parish Office: 978-582-4008 email: stbonifaceparish@verizon.net

Discover St. Boniface ~ Visit our website: www.StBoniface-lunenburg.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday / Wednesday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am | Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Memorial Day through Labor Day — Sunday: 9:00 am | Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Holy Hour of Adoration: last Wednesday of the month 5:30-6:30 pm
Weekday Masses: 6:30 pm Wednesday | 8:00 am Thursday & Friday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession) Saturday 5:00-5:30 p.m. or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Adults are baptized at the Easter Vigil as part of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Infant and child Baptisms are by arrangement.

FIRST EUCHARIST Preparation begins in grade one and includes classes, retreats, and home instruction. Children receive First Eucharist in grade two.

CONFIRMATION Our Confirmation program begins in the 9th grade; students are confirmed in the spring of the 10th grade. For young adults who have been baptized but not yet confirmed, contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY It is the policy of the Diocese of Worcester that a couple should contact the parish at least one year prior to the anticipated date of their wedding to allow sufficient time to carry out the various steps of the marriage preparation process. It is important that arrangements be made with the church before plans are made with reception halls, caterers, etc.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK Please call the parish office 978-582-4008, or email Fr. Omolo at stbonifaceparish@verizon.net or Louise Nadeau at dinalou1@comcast.net to arrange these visits.

PRAYER LINE MINISTRY If you or someone you know needs prayers or if you would like to be a part of this ministry of those who pray for the needs of neighbors, please contact the parish office at 978-582-4008, email stbonifaceparish@verizon.net or contact Louise Nadeau at dinalou1@comcast.net.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #16480 In Service to One. In Service to all. Members meet in the Parish Hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. Any Catholic men over 18 who are interested in joining the Knights should contact Grand Knight Thomas St. George at tjstgeorge@gmail.com or Deputy Grand Knight, Thomas Bodkin at tbodkin@bodkinmason.com or (508-363-3422), or email kofc16480@gmail.com.

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Charles Omolo, Administrator
Parish Office
Lucy Marcil, Religious Ed Coordinator
Carolyn Farley, Music Ministry
Judit Ernst, Organist
Louise Nadeau, Sacristan
Ministry Schedule
Nina Charpentier, Director, Preschool

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Newcomers to St. Boniface are invited and encouraged to formally register as members of the parish so that we may stay in touch with you with faith formation news, notices of special events, volunteer opportunities, and more.

Registration forms are available at the doors of the church, the parish office, or on our website.

Please note that you must be registered for at least six months before we can issue any verification of your status as a parishioner for godparent or sponsor letters.

AUGUST 3, 2025

Who is the First U.S. –born Martyr?

Although Fr. Rother lost his life in Guatemala, he was born in the small town of Okarche, Oklahoma. He grew up on his family farm, played on his school's sports teams, and served at his local parish as an altar server. It was an ordinary American childhood.

However, his vocational calling was anything but ordinary.

After high school graduation, while his friends set off to college or to their careers, Stanley entered the seminary. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 25th, 1963. Fr. Rother returned back home to Oklahoma where he served as an associate pastor for five years.

But he wasn't home for long before he felt the Lord calling him elsewhere, somewhere far from the Oklahoma farmland he was so familiar with. Fr. Rother sought and received permission to join the staff at his diocese's mission in Guatemala.

Without knowing the language or the culture, Fr. Rother obediently followed the Lord's calling to a small impoverished community in Santiago Atitlan. Surprisingly to Fr. Rother, who struggled with Latin throughout seminary, Spanish came easily to him and he was quickly immersed in the community, serving wholeheartedly and with deep love for his new flock.

He regularly ministered to his parishioners in their homes, eating with them, visiting the sick, and aiding them with medical issues. This Oklahoma boy even put his farming skills to use and helped in the fields, diversifying the crops and building an irrigation system.

In the midst of Fr. Rother's service, a civil war broke out in Guatemala between several guerrilla groups and Guatemala's militarized government. This war impacted everyone in Santiago Atitlan but it especially affected local Catholics, who were dangerously in the center of this bloody conflict.

Thousands of Guatemalan Catholics were tragically killed. The Church, despite constant threats, courageously continued to educate and catechize. Eventually, Fr. Rother's name appeared on a list of targeted individuals. For his safety, he was asked to return home to Oklahoma.

Yet, facing the life-threatening reality of his situation, Fr. Rother insisted that "the shepherd cannot run" and was determined to return to his parishioners.

Merely a few months into his brave return to Guatemala, Fr. Rother's rectory was invaded. He was threatened and executed for his faith and service on July 28th, 1981.

On December 1st, 2016, Pope Francis officially recognized Fr. Rother as a martyr, making him the first U.S.-born martyr. He also became the first U.S.-born priest to hold the title of "Blessed" when he was beatified on September 23rd, 2017.

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18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





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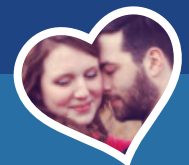
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